Undertakings. Similar reservations have been given by some State Governments. The handicapped including the blind are also given age concession in the upper age limit and relaxation in the medical standards for entry into Government service.

Setting up of Courts for Bhopal Gas Tragedy Cases

1957. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of courts pertaining to Bhopal Gas Tragedy set up so far and the number of courts likely to be set up during the current year;

(b) the amount of compensation paid so far by the courts;

(c) the amount allocated so far by the Supreme Court to Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal for providing compensation;

(d) the total amount including principal amount and interest deposited with the Supreme Court for this purpose; and

(e) the cause of dissension amongst surviving victims inspite of the compensation paid?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) The process of adjudication of compensation claims commenced in February, 1992 and funds for payment of compensation were made available by the Hon'ble Supreme Court to the Welfare Commissioner in October, 1992. 44 courts are adjudicating the compensation claims and 12 more courts are proposed to be set up. Of the amount of about Rs. 1,000 crores, transferred by the Supreme Court in the account of Welfare Commissioner, the Reserve Bank of India has allocated Rs 662.82 crores upto 31 10 1995 and an amount of Rs. 573.84 crores has been utilised for payment of compansation. Out of about 6 lakh compensation claims filed by the victims, 2,55 lakh claims have been adjudicated as on 7.11.1995 and a total amount of Rs. 710.53 crores awarded as compensation. The process of adjudication of cases which was slow in the initial stages, has since been speeded up and as many as 1.20 lakh cases out of 2.55 lakh cases so far disposed off, have been adjudicated since January, 1995.

Introduction of new Hindi stenography books

1958. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the books of Hindi stenography published with the grants provided by Government have not been considered for new course of Hindi Stenography as introduced by the Central Board of Secondary Education;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to include these books for use in the new course?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION) (DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI): (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, CBSE and each State is free to develop or adopt textbooks for the Vocational Courses.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

आठवींपंचवर्षीययोजनाकेदौरानइस्पातक्षेत्र में निवेश

1959 **श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल:** क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान इस्पात